

Application No. 10/045,769
Amendment "A" dated March 11, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed February 22, 2005

REMARKS

Initially, this amendment should be entered because it places the application in condition for prompt allowance without adding any new issues for consideration. In fact, all of the rejected subject matter is now being cancelled, to be pursued in a continuation, so that the allowable subject matter of the present case can promptly advance to issuance.

In the Office Action, mailed February 22, 2005, claims 1-35 were considered. Of these claims, claims 1-12 and 24-30 were rejected¹, and claims 13-23 and 31-35 were found allowable as presented.

By this paper, all of the rejected claims (1-12 and 24-30) have been cancelled. Accordingly, inasmuch as this resolves all issues of record, Applicants respectfully submit that the application should now be in condition for immediate allowance with pending claims 13-23 and 31-35.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 11 day of March 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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¹ Claims 1-12 and 24-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Balasubramaniam (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,550). Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicants reserve the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any remarks or amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.